GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4353
ANSWERED ON:24.04.2008
EXPLORATION IN OFFSHORE AREA OF KERALA
Surendran Shri Chengara

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a)whether the Union Government has finalized the Project of Oil and Natural Gas exploration in the offshore area of Kerala; and

(b) if so, the time by which exploration work will be started?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS(SHRI DINSHA PATEL)

(a) Government of India has awarded 17 exploration blocks to various Exploration and Production (E&P) companies in offshore areas of Kerala-Konkan basin under the six rounds of New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP) held so far. About 1,14,207 Line Kilometre (LKM) of 2D seismic and 5,702 square kilometre of 3D seismic data has been acquired and 11 prospects (4 in deepwater) have been drilled by Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC).

(b)Exploration activities have already commenced. 33395 LKM of 2D seismic, 9201 square kilometre of 3D seismic and 3 exploratory wells have been drilled so far in the 17 exploration blocks awarded under NELP.